DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 121 682 SO 009 071

TITLE	Participating in Political Activities, Mastery Test: Political Systems, Unit Three. Comparing Political Experiences, Experimental Edition.
INSTITUTION	American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C.; National Evaluation Systems, Inc., Amherst, Mass.; Social Studies Development Center, Bloomington, Ind.
SPONS AGENCY	National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE	75
NOTE	23p.; For related documents, see ED 120 060-061 and SO 009 069-076
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.83 HC-$1.67 Plus Postage
DESCRIPTORS	American Government (Course); Civics; Grade 12; *Multiple Choice Tests; *Political Science; Politics; Secondary Education; Social Studies; *Student Evaluation; *Systems Concepts; *Tests
IDENTIFIERS	*Comparing Political Experiences; High School Political Science Curriculum Project

ABSTRACT

This mastery test is designed to accompany unit 3 of the first-semester 12th-grade course, "Comparing Political Experiences." The 26-item multiple-choice test was developed by the National Evaluation Systems, Inc. in conjunction with the project directors to determine whether the unit objectives have been achieved. The test measures student knowledge of various kinds of political activities, such as decision making, leadership, communication, and participation. Emphasis is placed on testing how political activities affect political experiences in elite, bureaucratic, coalitional, and participant political systems. The test should be administered to the class as a group and then returned to the project headquarters for grading and analysis for possible revision of the student materials. (DE)

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Comparing Political Experiences

Participating in Political Activities

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

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Unit 3 Mastery Test

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For CPE
High School Political Science Curriculum Project
Social Studies Development Center
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SP 009071

Directions

The test you are about to take has 26 multiple choice questions. Read each question carefully and select an answer choice. You should record your choice by blackening the small space containing the letter corresponding to your answer.

Your answer sheet will be scored by a machine. Therefore, please make your marks dark and only in the answer spaces you select. Look at the sample question below and see how the answer is recorded in the sample answer box.

SAMPLE QUESTION

1. The opposite of UP is:
   - A. over
   - B. beside
   - C. down
   - D. inside

SAMPLE ANSWER BOX

REMEMBER:

1. Use a pencil only (No. 2 lead is best).
2. Use only the answer spaces A, B, C and D. There are NO questions with an "E" choice.
3. If you wish to change an answer, erase the unwanted mark completely.
4. Answer all questions and be sure you have marked your choice correctly. Mark ALL answers on your answer sheet.
5. DO NOT write in your test booklet and do not make stray marks on your answer sheet.
6. DO NOT add to or change the information at the top of the answer sheet. This space is for computer use only.
7. Good luck and take your time.

COMPARING POLITICAL EXPERIENCES is a two-semester high school course developed by the High School Political Science Curriculum Project, under the sponsorship of the American Political Science Association's Committee on Pre-Collegiate Education. The project is supported by funds provided by the National Science Foundation. National Evaluation Systems, Inc., is the evaluation agency responsible for test development.

1. Decide whether the situation below contains a political DEVELOPMENT experience.

> Fancy Facades is a small business whose members paint buildings in decorative ways. The company began with a few artists who operated as a participant group. Everyone had an equal voice in making decisions in the company.

> A few years later, the artists discovered that they often disagreed with one another's art styles. Therefore they decided to elect a director to manage the group and make all the decisions. The company became more efficient because it was run differently. Even though members still disagreed, they all accepted the director's decisions.

Which of the following statements is true of the political experience in this situation?

A. It is an example of political development because the work gets done more efficiently than before.

B. It is an example of political development because management and decision-making are done by one person now.

C. It is not an example of political development because the company is run differently now.

D. It is not an example of political development because there is still disagreement among the members of the group

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2. Read the following episode and the student reactions to it. Think about the way the students considered the episode.

> Dan was in a very close race for election to the mayor's office. His campaign manager suggested that they hire some demonstrators to cause disturbances during his opponent's speeches. Dan knew that this might be enough to win the election for himself, but he also thought it would be dishonest.
>
> What should Dan do?

Marilyn: I agree with those who say that it would not be an honest thing to do. But it is a close campaign race, and Dan has to consider every alternative. It's a difficult question. I guess I would tell Dan to decide for himself.

Bowen: Who knows what's best? Most politicians are dishonest sometimes during their campaigns. Even though hiring the demonstrators would be wrong, it's hard to win if you're the only one being honest. I don't think there is an answer to this difficult question.

Think about the WAY Marilyn and Bowen made their decision--not the decision itself. The way you would consider this issue would be most like:

A. Marilyn, since she understands that people must decide these things for themselves.

B. Bowen, since he is realistic about political campaigning.

C. both Marilyn and Bowen, since they understand the reasons supporting both sides of the issue.

D. neither Marilyn nor Bowen, since they do not take a position on the issue.

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3. Look for political system types in the situations below.

I. Mr. Digit runs the Hand and Foot Company single-handedly. He depends on the skills of his employees to give him advice and opinions. Each employee participates in the company by producing products, but Mr. Digit manages the place and makes all the decisions. He has more skill than anyone else.

II. The Toehold Climbing Club has 15 members. Each member has climbing skills and knowledge about mountains. Every year the group elects a leader to help manage their activities. But the leader must get the approval of all members before making any decisions.

Which of these two situations is a PARTICIPANT system?

A. I

B. II

C. both I and II

D. neither I nor II

4. Which of the following is NOT one of the criteria for evaluating the usefulness of an hypothesis?

A. An hypothesis must be directly related to a problem.

B. An hypothesis must allow one to identify its source.

C. An hypothesis must be precisely stated.

D. An hypothesis must offer a new idea about the problem.

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5. The Tombstone town government has been a bureaucratic organization in the past. Two students are forecasting the future of the town government.

Reuben:	Tombstone is a dying town, and fewer people are interested in holding positions in the town government. Mayor Earp is really running everything now. If he continues, the town will have an elite government. But if he gets shot dead, a coalitional group will result. Since Mayor Earp has such a fast gun, the town will probably have an elite government in the future.

Christina:	Many town officials have resigned and Mayor Earp is doing the work himself. He didn't appoint any new people. So it's really a one-man government now. If this continues, Tombstone will be an elite system. But if state officials step in, Tombstone will have a bureaucratic government again.

Which student uses the complete alternative futures method correctly?

A. Only Christina, because she identifies a trend, considers the consequences of the trend, and determines alternative possibilities.

B. Only Reuben, because he identifies a trend, considers alternative possibilities, and determines which alternative is most likely.

C. Both Christina and Reuben, because they both base their forecasts on the recent developments in Tombstone's town government.

D. Neither Christina nor Reuben, because neither one presents enough information to prove that their forecasts are correct.

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6. Identify an ORGANIZER role in the situation below.

> Roy went to every grocery store in town to gather information about food prices for the Consumer Protection Association. Mark organized the information for their next news bulletin. Mark and Roy then got into an argument about how to present the information. Jill did a good job of persuading them to compromise. Meanwhile Andrea showed the new members how the group operated and explained what she wanted them to do.

Which of the following statements is true about ORGANIZER roles in this situation?

A. Roy performed an organizer role since he carried out an important activity for the group.

B. Mark performed an organizer role since he organized information for the news bulletin.

C. Jill performed an organizer role since she helped to settle the argument between Roy and Mark.

D. Andrea performed an organizer role since she assigned tasks to the new members.

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7. Look for political activities in the situation below.

> Every member of the spy team was selected because of his or her special skills. The captain and her boyfriend talked to each member to get ideas for new missions. All members helped to carry out the missions and to decide important policy matters.

Which of the following statements is true about the political activities in this situation?

A. There is participation in the situation because members helped to carry out the missions.

B. There is decision-making in the situation because members helped to decide policy matters.

C. There is leadership in the situation because every member had skills to contribute to running the team.

D. There is communication in the situation because the captain and her boyfriend talked to all members.

8. Which of the following is an hypothesis that would be useful in trying to find an answer to the problem below?

> Problem: How can citizens influence the way their representatives vote in Congress?

A. If citizens read the Congressional Record, they will know how the Congress operates.

B. If citizens continue to act the way they have in the past, their representatives will notice.

C. If citizens write letters expressing their views to their representatives, they will influence the way their representatives vote.

D. If citizens do anything that attracts attention, they will influence the way their representatives vote.

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9. Read the following episode and the student reactions to it. Think about the way the students considered the episode.

> Congressman Jones was offered a large sum of money to vote against the pollution control bill. He knew it would be illegal to accept the money, but it was unlikely that he would be caught. He wanted the bill to pass, but he was sure it would pass even without his vote.
>
> What should Jones do?

Caroline: How can he even think of accepting that money? Fred said that Jones might as well take the money since it won't be hurting anyone. I don't go along with that kind of thinking. Jones should definitely refuse the money.

Mack: I can't go along with Fred's view either. If politicians start selling their votes, they will be undermining the democratic process in this country. Jones should not take the money.

Think about the WAY Caroline and Mack made their decision--not the decision itself. The way you would consider this issue would be most like:

A. Caroline, since she takes a firm stand on the issue.

B. Mack, since he gives a reason for his decision.

C. both Caroline and Mack, since I agree with their decision.

D. neither Caroline nor Mack, since they don't make their positions very clear.

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10. Look for political system types in the situations below.

I. The space program in Albia is run by Fred Flyer. He hired and trained three men to help him manage the program. They are allowed to make decisions about schedules, but all policy decisions are left to Fred. Each manager hired an assistant so that he could delegate tasks. The assistants have no decision-making power at all.

II. "Wings on Women" was formed to demand positions for women in the space program. Each woman selected a special task and helped to make decisions for the organization. Since all members had necessary skills, they all helped in their own ways to fight the policy that "A woman's place is in the kitchen, not in orbit."

Which of these situations is a BUREAUCRATIC system?

A. I

B. II

C. both I and II

D. neither I nor II

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11. Identify a FACILITATOR role in the situation below.

> The members of the Traffic Reform Committee were arguing about student patrollers. Ellen tried to convince everyone that students should be better trained for the job. Jake agreed, saying that the students were not doing their jobs well enough. But others disagreed. Donald listened carefully to the discussion and took notes. The argument ended when Edgar helped the members on each side of the issue to see the merits of the others' position.

Who performs a FACILITATOR role in this situation?

A. Ellen

B. Jake

C. Donald

D. Edgar

12. Evaluate the two comparisons below.

I. There is more communication among golf club members in 1975 than there was in 1965.

II. There were 13 states in the Union in 1791 and there are 50 states in the Union in 1975.

Which of these is the better comparison?

A. I, since the things being compared in II are not comparable.

B. I, since it is based on a concept and II is not.

C. II, since it is more significant than I.

D. II, since it is based on a concept and I is not.

13. Identify the use of a PARTICIPANT political system model in the comments below.

> Harvey: The Jackson Plant Nursery was owned and managed by Harry Jackson. He hired April and Darryl to work in the nursery. They worked hard, because they liked their jobs. Harry always asked their opinions before he made decisions about the business.

> Eloise: The Earthtime Crafts Shop was run by Pablo, Carlos, and Megan. They shared in the work, each contributing his or her special skills. No changes were made in the shop unless all three agreed.

Which student uses a PARTICIPANT system model?

A. Harvey

B. Eloise

C. both Harvey and Eloise

D. neither Harvey nor Eloise

14. Decide whether the situation below contains a political CONFLICT experience.

> When the Sunshine Farm was started in 1970, it was a participant system. The work was shared equally by eight different people. All decisions about the farm had to be accepted by everyone before they were acted upon.

> By 1975, the group was having trouble working together. Everyone still shared the tasks, but they argued a lot about crops and farming methods. The farm still operated in the same way, but the profits were lower because the group did not work together as well as they had before.

Which of the following statements is true about the political experience in this situation?

A. It is an example of political conflict because there were arguments among the members of the group.

B. It is an example of political conflict because disagreements among members resulted in less efficient farming.

C. It is not an example of political conflict because the pattern of political activities changed.

D. It is not an example of political conflict because the farm was still operating in the same way.

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15. Which of the following is the best comparison?

A. Smallville is a participant political system and Kranston is a bureaucratic system.

B. Many people have acquired useful political skills.

C. Bald men have more political status in this country than other kinds of people.

D. Political status is more evenly distributed in the police department than in the fire department.

16. The Young Independents Organization has been a participant group in the past. Two members are forecasting the future of the organization.

> Carmen: We have become more of a bureaucratic organization in recent years. We might stay a bureaucratic group. But the divisions among us might result in a coalitional organization. If this happens, I think we will be less effective.

> Juan: We have a new president of the organization this year. We might remain a participant group or we might take on a bureaucratic form if our membership increases. Since we seem unable to attract more members, we'll probably remain a participant group.

Which person correctly follows all of the steps in the forecasting procedure?

A. Carmen

B. Juan

C. both Carmen and Juan

D. neither Carmen nor Juan

17. Identify the use of a BUREAUCRATIC system model in the comments below.

> Penny: Solomon is the director of the model communities project. Three other people manage different areas of the project. The three managers have some decision-making powers. But they are responsible to Solomon for their actions. The managers spend a lot of time telling other workers what to do.

> Juliet: My father is the treasurer of a department store. He has four bosses--three vice presidents and the president of the company. My father presents financial decisions to the bosses for their approval. But my father is the boss of eight other workers who report to him.

Which student uses a BUREAUCRATIC system model?

A. Penny

B. Juliet

C. both Penny and Juliet

D. neither Penny nor Juliet

18. Read the following episode and the student reactions to it. Think about the way the students considered the episode.

> Dave Hornbeck is an F.B.I. agent. He suspects that the man he has been following is a member of a smuggling ring. Dave believes that if he tapped the man's telephone he would be able to get enough evidence to arrest the man. But he has not been able to get official approval for the tap.
>
> What should Dave do?

Hillary: I knew my opinion even before this discussion began. Too many criminals are getting away with crimes these days. Smuggling is a serious crime and everything possible should be done to stop it. Dave should go ahead and tap the phone.

Laura: I can't understand why this is even an issue. There is no reason to object to your phone being tapped unless you have done something wrong. Dave should tap the phone and get the evidence he needs.

Think about the WAY Hillary and Laura made their decision--not the decision itself. The way you would consider this issue would be most like:

A. Hillary, since he realizes the seriousness of the crime.

B. Laura, since she considers the consequences of tapping the man's phone.

C. both Hillary and Laura, since they explain their decision.

D. neither Hillary nor Laura, since they do not consider reasons supporting the other side of the issue.

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19. Look for political activities below.

> Jeff talked to every other member of the recreation committee about the dance this year. He used his influence to persuade them to hire a singing dog as the main attraction. The rest of the committee decided to go along with the idea. Everyone participated in planning for the big event.

All of the following are political activities in this situation EXCEPT:

A. influence

B. communication

C. decision-making

D. participation

20. Identify an ORGANIZER role in the situation below.

> At the last meeting of the political study group, Nellie argued that the group should take legal steps to get certain secret documents. Linda agreed with her and said the group should organize their efforts in that direction. The rest of the group favored waiting until they had studied all the evidence that Frank had gathered on his trip. When the discussion was completed, Ben outlined the projects for the next few weeks and divided the work among the members.

Who performed an ORGANIZER role in this situation?

A. Nellie

B. Linda

C. Frank

D. Ben

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21. Decide whether the situation below contains a political CHANGE experience.

> Milo University had always been a bureaucratic system. Decisions were made by university officials who were appointed by the president of the university.

> This year, for the first time, the Dean of Student Affairs was elected by the student body. Although the university is still run in the same way, the students now have a voice in deciding some of the policies that affect them.

Which of the following statements is true about the political experience in this situation?

A. It is an example of political change because the students now have more participation in the system.

B. It is an example of political change because the university is no longer a bureaucratic system.

C. It is not an example of political change because the university still operates in the same way.

D. It is not an example of political change because the students still do not have full decision-making power.

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22. Below are two hypotheses that might be useful in finding an answer to the problem.

Problem: How can Sue get the school to offer a course on women in history?

I. If Sue can convince the history teacher to present the idea to the principal, the school will offer the course.

II. If Sue studies history on her own, she will find out what would be taught in such a course.

Which hypothesis is most useful for finding an answer to the problem?

A. I, because it is directly related to the problem.

B. II, because it offers a new idea about the problem.

C. They are equally useful, because both can be tested.

D. Neither is useful, because neither is precisely stated.

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23. Which of the following lists contains ONLY political activities?

I.	II.
participation skills status	communication leadership decision-making

A. I

B. II

C. both I and II

D. neither I nor II

24. Evaluate the two comparisons below.

I. The bikers association has experienced political development and the pilots association has experienced political maintenance.

II. The percentage of the members of the women's club who participate in decision-making is greater than in the men's club.

Which of the following statements is true about the above two comparisons?

A. I is not a good comparison because the things being compared are not comparable.

B. I is not a good comparison because it is unclear what things are being compared.

C. II is not a good comparison because it is not based on a concept.

D. II is not a good comparison because it is not significant.

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25. Identify a FACILITATOR role in the situation below.

> The campaign committee was run by Senator Goldbar. But he relied on his workers to help make the campaign successful. Jennie suggested that the Senator have more contact with the people. When Albert got angry about this idea, John helped to settle the argument in a way that satisfied everyone. Ollie volunteered to arrange for a public speaking tour in the area.

Which of the following is true about FACILITATOR roles in this situation?

A. Senator Goldbar performed a facilitator role since he ran the campaign.

B. Jennie performed a facilitator role since she contributed a useful idea.

C. John performed a facilitator role since he helped to settle an argument.

D. Ollie performed a facilitator role since he offered to arrange the tour.

26. The Cruiser Cycle Club has been a bureaucratic group in the past. Two members are forecasting the future of the club.

> Lindy: The club is still operating in the same way, although more members are now taking an active part in organizing club activities. Since things are going so smoothly, it is likely that the club will remain a bureaucratic organization.

> Lyle: There have been no changes in the way the club operates. It could remain a bureaucratic group or, if Sammy tries to take over, it could become an elite group. Sammy has been complaining about the way the club operates, so I think the club is likely to become elite before long.

Which person correctly follows all of the steps in the forecasting procedure?

A. Lindy

B. Lyle

C. both Lindy and Lyle

D. neither Lindy nor Lyle

STOP